



# LARC



Volume 60, Number 10

ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC., INC. - a 501(c)3 Corporation

October 2020

## Message from Chris Ancelet

It has been too many months since we have been able to gather as a group and I know that everyone wants to return to a sense of normalcy. With the recent movement to Phase 3, I am pleased to announce that we will be meeting in person for the October 1st General Meeting.

### **\*\*IMPORTANT NOTE\*\***

With the recent closure of the Lafayette Science Museum, this venue is no longer available. Therefore, we will NOT be meeting at the **Lafayette Science Museum**.

Our new meeting location will be at the S.E.O.T. building on [1300 Bertrand Drive, Lafayette, LA 70506](#). This is next to the Borden Milk building on Bertrand Dr.

As you can see from the photo at the above link, there is ample parking available and we are looking forward to meeting.

This meeting location has been made possible by Mr. Danny Daigle, so be sure to pass him a quick "Thank You" when you have the opportunity.

We will be complying with the state guidelines, so please understand the following parameters:

1. Temperatures will be checked at the door. Temperatures above 100.4 will not be allowed to enter.
2. **IF YOU ARE SICK STAY HOME!!**
3. We will be spreading the seating area to accommodate the 6ft guidelines as best as possible.
4. A face covering will be required to enter the building.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there!!

Chris Ancelet

N5MCY

337-591-8871

---

*October 1, 2020*  
*1300 Bertrand Dr. Lafayette, LA*  
**VE Testing TBD** [w5ddl.org](http://w5ddl.org)

*The LARC is published monthly*  
*By the*  
*Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.*  
*P. O. Box 51174*  
*Lafayette, LA 70505-1174*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### **GENERAL MEETING**

October 1, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

1300 Bertrand Drive

Lafayette, LA

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/>

### **Local 2-Meter Nets**

#### **Monday**

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM

147.040 PL 103.5 +0.600 Lafayette, LA

#### **Tuesday**

Region 4 SkyWarn Net 7:00 PM

145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

#### **Wednesday**

Silent Key Memorial Net 6:30 PM

146.820 PL 103.5 New Iberia, LA

### **AARA OFFICERS 2019 - 2020**

President – Chris Ancelet N5MCY  
cancelet@gmail.com

V. Pres. - Derek Meche WM5TS

Secr – David McCutcheon KG5JHR

Treasurer - Tom Dischler W5OHJ

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Danny Daigle KD5JMS

Steve Webre AF5VR

Barrett Oge KG5SSO

### **YOUTH MEMBER**

Patrick Taylor – KG5YFR

### **QSL MANAGER**

Chris Ancelet – N5MCY

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER**

Herman Campbell - KN5GRK

337-234-5364 kn5grk@lusfiber.net

### **AARA REPEATER GROUP**

David Redfern N4ELM - Trustee

Derek Meche WM5TS

Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP

### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Joseph “Moe” Meaux

jdmeaux2002@gmail.com

### **Web Master**

David McCutcheon KG5JHR

## **September 2020**



### **VE Test Session**

**September 26, 2020**

*Well I think we had a pretty good Saturday morning in as much as we had a gentleman upgrade to general. This person is a fairly new Ham Tony Guillory ~ KI5KKI of Church Point. On his way to Amateur Extra.*

*The VEs in attendance were; Greg ~ K5LFT, Dave ~ N4ELM & John ~ W4HVH. Thanks Guys for the always great help & congratulations to Tony ~ KI5KKI !!!!!*



**73, de Greg ~ K5LFT**

## Jamboree-on-the-Air

Jamboree-on-the-Air, or **JOTA**, is the largest Scouting event in the world. It is held annually the third full weekend in October. JOTA uses amateur radio to link Scouts and hams around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. This jamboree requires no travel, other than to a nearby amateur radio operator's ham shack. Many times you can find the hams will come to you by setting up a station at your Scout camporee, at the park down the block, or perhaps at a ham shack already set up at your council's camp.



### Tell Me More

Scouts of any age can participate, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers, including girls. Once at the ham radio station, the communication typically involves talking on a microphone and listening on the station speakers. However, many forms of specialized communication may also be taking place, such as video communication, digital communication (much like sending a message on your smartphone but transmitted by radio), or communication through a satellite relay or an earth-based relay (called a repeater). The exchanges include such information as name, location (called QTH in ham speak), Scout rank, age, and hobbies. The stations you'll be communicating with can be across town, across the country, or even around the world! The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2017 JOTA-JOTI had over 1.5 million Scout participants from more than 160 countries.

### When Is It?

Jamboree-on-the-Air is held the third weekend in October. There are no official hours, so you have the whole weekend to make JOTA contacts. The event officially starts Friday evening during the JOTA Jump Start and runs through Sunday evening.

### How Can I Participate as a Scout?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area. You can also contact a local ham radio operator or a local amateur radio club. You can find a searchable database of clubs at [www.arrl.org/find-a-club](http://www.arrl.org/find-a-club). This website is operated by the American Radio Relay League, the national association for amateur radio, which is cooperating closely with the BSA on JOTA and many other activities.

Your local club may be able to direct you to its planned JOTA activities. These can include ham stations set up at camporees or other events. Or, if there are no planned activities, you can either work with them to get something set up or arrange to visit a local radio operator's ham shack at a scheduled time to participate in JOTA.

### How Can I Participate as an Amateur Radio Operator?

Contact your local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area and how you can help. You can find your council using the Council locator.

If nothing is currently planned, or if current plans aren't reaching your area, you can work with the council or a local unit (pack, troop, crew) to set up a JOTA station or arrange for visits to your ham shack. You can also participate just by making QSOs with the many JOTA stations that will be on the air. A good resource to find a local Scout unit is the [Be-A-Scout](http://Be-A-Scout) website.

## Hurricane Watch Net Wraps Up Marathon Activation for Two Storms

*From ARRL Newsletter September 17, 2020*

The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) just stood down from another extended session — 71 hours of continuous operation — for Hurricane Paulette and Hurricane Sally. HWN Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, said it seems like long activations such as these are happening all too often.

“I suppose Mother Nature hasn’t been getting the attention she desires,” Graves quipped.

The HWN activated on Sunday, September 13, at 2100 UTC on both 14.325 MHz and 7.268 MHz. During the opening hours, Graves said, the net lined up reporting stations on Bermuda for Hurricane Paulette, as the storm was heading their direction.

Hurricane Paulette made landfall the next morning at around 0900 UTC as a Category 1 hurricane, with sustained winds of 90 MPH. “We received numerous reports of widespread power and internet outages along with minor damage,” Graves recounted.

“Once we completed operations for Hurricane Paulette, we quickly shifted our focus to what was soon to be Hurricane Sally,” he continued. “And within an hour, Sally was upgraded to a Category 1 hurricane with sustained winds of 90 MPH.” Graves said Sally was “an unusual storm” that all but stalled, meandering 100 miles offshore for a while before finally heading toward shore. “This makes planning for an activation a nightmare,” he said. “One never knows when a storm will stall, slow, or speed up.”

Graves also said Sally was “a forecasting nightmare” with respect to its destination. “On Sunday, the forecast called for a Tuesday landfall southeast of New Orleans,” he said. “Then the track shifted to Bay Saint Louis on Tuesday evening. As time went on, the track kept shifting more to the east.”

Sally ultimately made landfall at Gulf Shores, Alabama, around 0945 UTC on Wednesday as a strong Category 2 hurricane with sustained winds of 105 MPH.

“After landfall, Sally was downgraded to a tropical storm, and we began calling for stations with reports of damage, storm surge, and flooding. The net officially secured operations at 2000 UTC on Wednesday.

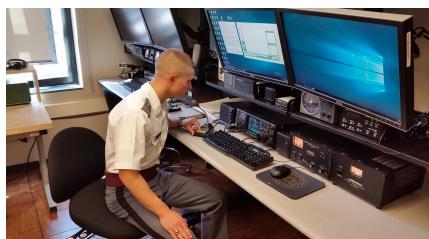
But the Caribbean Basin has more in store during this hurricane season. “We are now keeping a close eye on Hurricane Teddy,” Graves said, noting that Bermuda could be affected by another hurricane by late Sunday night or early Monday morning. “Also, we are keeping a close eye on a system that seems to be getting better organized in the southwestern Gulf of Mexico.”

The next named will be Wilfred, and after that, storms will be designated using the Greek alphabet, starting with Alpha. “If we reach Alpha, it will be the second time in history to use that name,” Graves pointed out. “The first was in 2005.”

Graves expressed his appreciation to the amateur radio community for keeping 14.325 and 7.268 MHz clear during the activation.

---

## MARS Communications Exercise will Involve Amateur Radio Community



Military Auxiliary Radio System (**MARS**) volunteers will take part in the Department of Defense (**DOD**) Communications Exercise 20-4, starting on October 3 and concluding on October 26.

The MARS focus is interoperability with ARRL and the amateur radio community. “Throughout the month of October, MARS members will interoperate with various amateur radio organizations that will be conducting their annual simulated emergency tests with state, county, and local emergency management personnel,” said MARS Chief Paul English, WD8DBY.

“MARS members will send a DOD-approved message to the amateur radio organizations recognizing this cooperative interoperability effort.” MARS members will also train with the ARRL National Traffic System (NTS) and Radio Relay International (RRI) to send ICS 213 general messages to numerous amateur radio leaders across the US. “This exercise will culminate with MARS Auxiliaries sending a number of summary messages in support of a larger DOD communications exercise taking place October 20 – 26,” English added.

Throughout October, MARS stations will operate on 60 meters, and WWV/WWVH will broadcast messages to the amateur radio community. English assures no disruption to communications throughout the month-long series of training events.

---

## Former Dayton Hamvention Venue Hara Arena is Being Demolished

From ARRL.org Sept 28, 2020

Hara Arena, the former venue for Dayton Hamvention® and myriad sports, entertainment, and other presentations over the years, will soon be history. In the wake of a failed attempt to revitalize the tornado-damaged complex, officials in the city of Trotwood, Ohio — where Hara Arena is actually located — announced plans last week to raze the complex and rezone the property from commercial recreation to light industrial.

“The complex suffered extensive damage during the 2019 Memorial Day tornado outbreak,” the city said in a news release on September 25, taking note of hopes to salvage the complex. “However, redeveloping the property would be a challenge due to the extent of the damage, so the decision was made, and a contract has been secured to demolish the legendary venue.”

The city said the zoning change will allow manufacturing, distribution centers, and call centers to establish their businesses in the area.

Hara Arena had served as the venue for Dayton Hamvention from 1964 until 2016. Hamvention announced in July 2016 that Hara Arena would be closing and that Hamvention would continue. The show is now held at the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center.

Over its six-decade history, Hara Arena hosted concerts by performers that included the Rolling Stones and the Grateful Dead; it was also where hockey legend Wayne Gretzky played his first professional hockey game.

---

## Solar Minimum Most Likely Occurred in December 2019

Sunspot Index and Long-Term Solar Observations (SILSO) in Belgium said this month that the minimum between Solar Cycles 24 and 25 "most probably" took place last December. SILSO, a part of the Royal Observatory of Belgium and formerly known as SIDC, cited as evidence the January 2020 increase in the 13-month smoothed sunspot number -- the first upswing since the Cycle 24 maximum in April 2014.

"[F]or now, this latest smoothed value in January 2020 is the very first point indicating a rise of the activity. So, the date of the minimum still needs a full confirmation over the coming months," SILSO said on its website. "For now, preliminary smoothed values, limited to less than 13 months, hint at increasing values over coming months. If the rising trend indeed continues, this [December 2019] date will become fully definitive."

SILSO said another indication of the transition between the two solar cycles can be drawn from counting individual sunspot groups that belong to either the old or new solar cycle. "While most sunspot groups belonged to the last solar cycle [Cycle 24] until September 2019, the dominance switched to groups of the new cycle in November 2019," SILSO said.

SILSO said that in terms of the number of active regions, the minimum between Cycle 24 and Cycle 25 falls in October 2019. "This is close to December 2019," SILSO said. It attributes the difference to three factors:

The sunspot number also takes into account the total number of spots, and the size of the emerging active regions.

The time of the minimum depends on the respective trends of the declining phase of the past cycle, and of the rising phase of the new cycle, over the 12 months surrounding the minimum.

The date of the minimum has a significant uncertainty range. Near minimum, activity hardly varies and is close to minimum for a few months. "The date of the minimum is thus always less sharply defined than the date of the maximum of the cycles, which are more sharply peaked," SILSO explained.

SILSO noted "a steady stream" of small, active regions since last December, but that activity stagnated at a constant low level. "However, since July -- and even more in the course of August 2020 -- the activity seems to truly take off, with at least one sunspot group visible on almost all days. Such a level of activity had not been reached since early 2019."

"This late-breaking upward trend is now expected to accelerate over the coming months," SILSO predicted. "So be prepared for a more eruptive and interesting sun!"



## Local 2-Meter Nets

**MONDAY**

*AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA*

**WEDNESDAY**

*Silent Key Memorial Net 6:30 PM  
146.820 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA*

**TUESDAY**

*Region 4 Skywarn Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA*

**THURSDAY**

*On-The-Air General Meeting 7:00  
147.040 +0.600 PL 103.50 W6EXI repeater*

## *AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net*

Net Controllers will rotate each week and held on the 146.820 W5DDL Repeater only.

The AARA Monday Night Net and the Silent Key Memorial Net is being held on the 146.820.

The October 2020 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website. [Net Schedules](#)

## *REGION 4 SKYWARN NET*

Each Tuesday night at 7:00 PM (local), the Region 4 Skywarn Net will take place on the 145.370 Skywarn Repeater in Lafayette, LA. Net Control Operators will alternate each week.

In case the 145.370 repeater fails, the net will be held on the 146.820 W5DDL repeater PL Tone 103.5.

The October 2020 schedule can be found at this link: [Net Schedules](#)

When using the Skywarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8 - Central 103.5

See our website for additional information: <http://www.w5ddl.org/repeaters.htm>



*Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing names to be missing from the list.*



10-04	KI5DHH	David
10-04	K5LFT	Greg
10-05	W5OHJ	Tom
10-08	KI5ARP	Keith
10-10	KN5GRK	Herman
10-17	KF5FYS	Kendra
10-18	WM5TS	Derek
10-27	KI5ARS	Wilton
11-03	KG5YYL	Ken
11-03	K5VSH	Paul
11-16	KG5JHR	David
11-20	KC5UGC	Steven
11-30	K5JMR	John

*Don't forget to renew your membership by January 31<sup>st</sup>.*

**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 51174**  
**Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**  
**Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>**



*Share the Fun ~  
Bring a Friend  
to be a HAM.*

---

### ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

---

**October General Meeting    October 1, 2020 7PM 1300 Bertrand Dr. Lafayette, LA**

***For any additional information, check the W5DDL.org website***

---

### **DIY Orange Julius**

I sure miss the Orange Julius shops that used to be in the malls. A nice drink to have in the summer while shopping.

6 Ounces of frozen Orange Juice Concentrate	
1 Cup of milk	1 Cup water
1/4 Cup sugar	1 Teaspoon vanilla
8 Ice cubes	

Add all ingredients into a blender, except the ice cubes.

Blend for 1-2 minutes.

Add the ice cubes, one at a time, until smooth. Makes about 30 oz.

NOTE: You can kick it up a bit by adding 2 ounces of Vodka.

### ***FCC Information Service***

***Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/ vanity call signs: 1-888-225-5322 This will connect you the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:***

***[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov).***

***FCC Website:***

***<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>***

***New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/ VEC at 860-594-3000.***

***<http://www.arrl.org/arrlyec>***

***The mailing address to the FCC is:  
Federal Communications Commission,  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554***